



# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICE

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET  
493 HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

JON W. FULLINWIDER  
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

TELEPHONE: (213) 974-2008  
FACSIMILE: (213) 633-4733

January 27, 2003

To: Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor Don Knabe  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Jon W. Fullinwider  
Chief Information Officer

Subject: **MISSING FOSTER CHILDREN WEBSITE**

Your Board instructed the Interim Director of Children and Family Services to request authorization from the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court to create a website that lists names and photos of missing foster care children, and coordinate this effort with my office. After receiving approval to implement the site by the Presiding Judge on January 15, 2003, I am pleased to inform you that this site is now available at <http://www.missingkidsla.org> and can also be accessed through the County homepage at <http://www.lacounty.info> - Public Alerts (Missing Children).

Over the past few months, this office in conjunction with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Information Technical Services Division/Internal Services Department (ITS/ISD) has participated in the design and development of a comprehensive website that provides names, pictures (when available), and physical descriptions of abducted or missing children from the County's foster care system. Currently, the system maintains information on approximately 700 children, of which 276 have pictures. The website will be updated weekly to reflect the most current information on missing and abducted children.

We are working with DCFS to develop and maintain a procedure to provide current pictures for all DCFS foster children in their respective court files. These pictures will then be available for all children that are reported missing or abducted.

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The Missing Foster Children website has the potential to integrate the District Attorney's Abducted Children site and the capability to add missing and abducted children from the Probation system. This capability will provide the public with a single location to find information on missing children in Los Angeles County. These enhancements, along with additional navigation aids, will be implemented in future phases of the system.

ITS/ISD and DCFS are to be commended for their prompt and professional development of this comprehensive website. It incorporates all of the best features of current notable systems, including the Michigan and Florida state websites, and will be a benchmark for future missing children websites.

If you need additional information regarding the County of Los Angeles Missing Children website, please contact me at 213.974.2008 or John McIntire, of my staff, at 213.974.2154.

JWF:JM:ygd

c: Interim Director, Department of Children and Family Services  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel  
Director, Internal Services Department  
Chair, Information Systems Commission